

ESTIMATES—SERVICE OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

LETTER

FROM

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

TRANSMITTING

Estimates for the service of the Post Office Department for the year ending June 30, 1862.

JANUARY 2, 1861.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
December 29, 1860.

SIR: Pursuant to the second section of the "act to change the organization of the Post Office Department," approved July 2, 1836, I have the honor to submit specific estimates of the sums of money expected to be required for the service of the year ending June 30, 1862, viz:

For transportation of the mails, inland.....	\$10,040,284 00
For compensation to postmasters.....	2,728,734 00
For clerks for postmasters.....	1,045,517 23
For ship, steamboat, and way letters.....	20,000 00
For office furniture for post offices.....	4,000 00
For advertising.....	70,000 00
For mail bags.....	55,000 00
For paper for blanks.....	60,000 00
For printing blanks.....	12,000 00
For wrapping paper.....	45,000 00
For mail locks, keys, and stamps.....	20,000 00
For mail depredations and special agents.	75,000 00
For miscellaneous payments.....	160,000 00
For postage stamps and stamped envelopes.....	110,000 00
For payments of balances due to foreign countries...	300,000 00
For payments to letter carriers.....	210,000 00

14,955,535 23

The foregoing are estimates of the amount to be appropriated out of the revenues of the department.

The following sums will be required out of the appropriation, under the fifth section of the act of June 14, 1858, deemed perpetual by the Attorney General:

For transportation of the mails between New York, Liverpool, and other European ports.....	\$335,000 00
For transportation of the mails between the United States, Cuba, and other West India ports.....	55,000 00
For transportation of the mails between Portland and Liverpool, and Quebec and Liverpool.....	70,000 00
For transportation of the mails between New Orleans and Vera Cruz.....	3,000 00
For transportation of the mails between Key West and Havana, (Cuba).....	10,000 00
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	15,428,535 23
For transportation of the mails between New York, Aspinwall, Panama, and San Francisco, including isthmus service. Special appropriation not under act of June 14, 1858.....	350,000 00
For agencies on the isthmus.....	1,750 00
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Estimated expenditures for 1862.....	15,780,285 23
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The estimates submitted in my annual report of the 1st instant, for the California mail service, were predicated on the assumption that the amount of postages would come out of the appropriation of fifth section, act June 14, 1858, deemed perpetual by the Attorney General. The Secretary of the Treasury has, however, decided, under date of 24th instant, against such a construction of the law; and I therefore deem it proper to submit an estimate of \$350,000 as probably the lowest sum for which mails can be conveyed by sea between New York and San Francisco, including the isthmus service.

This increases the whole estimated expenditures of the department for the year 1862 from \$15,701,110 23 to \$15,780,285 23, or \$79,175 00.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOLT,
Postmaster General.

Hon. WM. PENNINGTON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.